

All NOK notifications completed.

Member has personal belongings at Holiday Inn in Seattle. Roommate will be moved to different room until ISC Team can get over there to inventory belongings, etc.

King County Coroner's Office has received copies of PS3 Gill's military ID and driver's license. Autopsy should be completed and remains released by 1200, Monday 26 March 2007 to local funeral home. Remains will be prepared for transportation to location as determined by NOK.

ISC Seattle will coordinate local Seattle funeral home and honor guard activities. Once NOK determines direction to CG for disposition of remains, CG can make preparations to transport remains under escort and with honor guard send-off. MSST Seattle/Anchorage will be allowed to participate in local honor guard activities.

Initiated CISM intervention counseling for all crews (both MSSTs and Sta Seattle)

Boat involved, CG 25501 has been pulled and trailered back to ISC Seattle. Towed it inside of Building 7, where it is currently secured in a cage in MSST Seattle engineering spaces.

PO Gill's PPE & TAC Gear is currently secured in MSST Seattle's kennel spaces in building 7. I took custody of it from Station Seattle. They have it packed into a 32 gal garbage can. It is soaking wet and a biohazard. Will transfer the contents into paper bags tomorrow, which will allow it to dry out w/o mold & mildew forming.

A load-planner from MSST Anchorage will be arriving here today. MSST Seattle will coordinate with them and provide all necessary support to assist them with their demob.

LCDR [REDACTED], MSST Anchorage CO plans on traveling to Seattle today, and [REDACTED] may as well. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] MSST Anchorage anticipates conducting a memorial service in Anchorage following burial (antic RI) and when [REDACTED] returns from RI. According to LCDR Bosau, RADM Houck has discussed possibility of conducting a memorial service this week for PO Gill in Seattle.

MAB convening order not approved by RADM Higgins. Anticipate CDR [REDACTED] possible president. Desire is for MAB to arrive tonight; CDR [REDACTED] cannot make it until tomorrow.

Office of Public Affairs
U.S. Coast Guard Thirteenth District

U.S. Department of
Homeland Security
United States
Coast Guard



Press Release

Date: March 25, 2007
Contact: USCG Public Affairs
206-819-9154

COAST GUARDSMAN DIES IN PATROL ACCIDENT

SEATTLE - A Coast Guardsman died from injuries received during a security patrol near Vashon Island in Puget Sound today.

Two 25-foot fast response boat crews from a Coast Guard Maritime Safety and Security Team were involved in a security patrol and training mission north of Vashon Island at approximately 2:15 p.m. when a Coast Guardsman was ejected from a vessel. A third 25-foot response boat was operating in the area and came to the Coast Guardsman's aid.

The Coast Guardsman was transported to the ferry terminal near Fauntleroy Cove for further transport by ambulance to Harbor View Medical Center where he was pronounced dead.

The identity of the crewmen is being withheld pending notification of next of kin. The accident is under investigation.

Coast Guard security operations have not been interrupted.

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printer friendly

CAPT

From: Qdell, John CAPT
Sent: Monday, March 26, 2007 12:56 PM
To: [REDACTED] CAPT; [REDACTED] LCDR; [REDACTED] LT;
[REDACTED] CDR; [REDACTED] CDR; [REDACTED] CDR;
CAPT (HEALY); [REDACTED] CAPT; [REDACTED] BOSN4;
[REDACTED] CDR; [REDACTED] CDR; [REDACTED] CDR;
[REDACTED] CAPT; [REDACTED] CAPT
Cc: [REDACTED] YNCS; [REDACTED] CDR; [REDACTED] CDR;
[REDACTED] CDR; [REDACTED] CAPT; Houck, Richard RADM; [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] CDR; [REDACTED] CAPT; [REDACTED] LT; [REDACTED] CAPT;
[REDACTED] CAPT; [REDACTED] CDR; [REDACTED] LT;
[REDACTED] CAPT; Devereaux, William CAPT; [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] CDR
Subject: Release of Information Regarding the Death of MSST Anchorage Petty Officer on Sunday, 25 March 2007
Attachments: Coast Guardsman dies in patrol accident



Coast Guardsman
dies in patrol...

Seattle Area Unit COs and XOs,

Below is the press guidance issued by HQ regarding yesterday's tragic death of an MSST Anchorage petty officer during a mission here in Puget Sound. Also attached is the Coast Guard's press release on this incident.

I expect this case will be a continuing news story here in Seattle for the next several days/weeks. Whether members of your crews/staffs were directly involved with the case or not, they may be asked about the case by members of the public who know they are in the Coast Guard (friends, neighbors, fellow ferry riders, etc.).

Out of respect to the family of the petty officer who died, and to ensure the integrity of the investigations that are already underway into the cause of the accident, members of the Coast Guard should refrain from discussing the case outside the service. Specifically, when dealing with the public, they should not speculate about the cause of the accident, discuss information about the case that they have learned in the course of their official duties, or disseminate internal Coast Guard correspondence or documents (including photos and emails).

All releases of information to the public in this case MUST be coordinated through the Pacific Area or D13 public affairs offices.

Please ensure that your crews and staffs are brief regarding this guidance.

/r - CAPT John Odell
Acting D13 Chief of Staff

This information is being withheld under 5 U.S.C. Section 552(b)(6) and (7)(C)

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED] LCDR

Sent: Sunday, March 25, 2007 9:13 PM

To: [REDACTED] CDR; [REDACTED] LT; [REDACTED] LCDR; [REDACTED] PACS; [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] CDR; [REDACTED] PAC; [REDACTED] PA1; [REDACTED] NF2;
[REDACTED] PA1; [REDACTED] PA1; [REDACTED] PA1; [REDACTED] PAC; [REDACTED] T;
[REDACTED] PAC; [REDACTED] LCDR; [REDACTED] PA1; [REDACTED] LT; [REDACTED] LCDR
Cc: [REDACTED] CDR; Neptun, Daniel CAPT; Long, John CAPT; [REDACTED] CDR; RCCAlameda; Ryan,
June CAPT; [REDACTED]
Subject: MSST DEATH PAG

Pacific Theater PAO's: The following PAG applies to the death of a Coast Guard MSST Anchorage member near Seattle on Sunday afternoon while on duty. D13 PA's initial press release is attached.

* D13 PA has the lead on the initial report of the accident. The plan is to issue one basic, factual release until the next of kin notifications are made. D13 has had media calls and done interviews on this case. D13 will put out one additional release with the member's name once all next of kin notifications are complete.

* PADET Anchorage is authorized to reissue the D13 press release and answer questions with the information provided in the press release. Understand from the PAC/D11 command center that the [REDACTED] has been notified.

* D1 is authorized to reissue the D13 press release and answer questions with the information provided in the press release after the [REDACTED] have been notified. My understanding is that the [REDACTED] not been notified.

* PADET Anchorage and D1 are also authorized to issue the follow-on press release issued by D13.

Do not under any circumstances speculate about why this accident happened or operating procedures as they pertain to this accident.

* The accident is under investigation and we will provide the details from the investigation when it's complete.

* All interviews must be done strictly within the limits of the information provided in the press release. General details about MSST's and 25-foot RBS may be provided in response to inquiry. Answer to questions that do not fit within the press release should be answered with, "The accident is under investigation and we will provide the details from the investigation when it's complete."

* The investigation will define reality on this accident. Please do not make any statements about the investigation or case that we will need to correct down the road. As long as everyone stays within the limits of the press release, we will be fine.

* PACAREA PA will likely take the lead on all media activity on the case following the initial announcement being conducted by D13 PA. All questions about the investigation itself shall be passed to PACS [REDACTED] and/or PA [REDACTED]

* The accident is going to be under investigation. [REDACTED] from the PAC TACLET will be the investigating officer. PACAREA PA will work with [REDACTED] as needed.

CGHQ: We are following the same plan that we followed for the Healy dive accident case.

LANTAREA: Request you inform all LANTAREA PAO's. I'm having the PACAREA duty PA reach out to D1 tonight, because the member's family is located in Rhode Island. I hope you do not mind.

Thank you.

This information is being withheld under 5 U.S.C. Section 552(b)(6) and (7)(C)

LT

From: internal@piersystem.com on behalf of D13(ipa)
Sent: Sunday, March 25, 2007 8:27 PM
To: LCDR
Subject: Coast Guardsman dies in patrol accident

Office of Public Affairs
U.S. Coast Guard Thirteenth District

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Press Release Date: March 25, 2007
Contact: USCG Public Affairs
206-819-9154

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CDR

From:
To:
Subject:

Monday, March 26, 2007 6:10 AM
CDR
king5.com article from LCDR

on behalf of

LCDR [REDACTED] has sent you a story from king5.com.
(Page at: http://www.king5.com/topstories/stories/NW_032507WABcoastguarddeathSW.17b2a99c.html)

Coast Guard officer dies in accident at ferry terminal
06:35 PM PDT on Sunday, March 25, 2007
BERNARD CHOI / KING 5 News

KING

The Coast Guardsman was taken to Harborview Medical Center, where he died.

SEATTLE - An investigation is underway after a U.S. Coast Guardsman died in a fall at the Fauntleroy Ferry terminal in West Seattle.

The accident occurred while the 25-year-old petty officer was performing homeland security operations on board a rapid response boat, which routinely accompany ferries on sailings across Puget Sound.

Somehow the officer fell overboard.

"They said that they did a turn and somehow he fell off," said witness Nathan Thomas. "They didn't know how he hit his head. Somehow he hit his head so they pulled him out of the water."

Passengers waiting for the next ferry watched as an urgent rescue unfolded.

"When they finally got him onto the gurney and the paramedics took over, all the Coast Guard guys kind of got away from the scene and were hugging each other and one was crying," said Thomas.

The officer was rushed to Harborview Medical Center, where he died.

"Whether it's helicopter patrols, boat patrols, offshore, we're out here day and night and it's a very dangerous mission, and unfortunately today we lost one of our own," said a Coast Guard Spokesman.

Need statements
if possible

Statements from
paramedics / crew
other boats

CDR

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Sent: Sunday, March 25, 2007 8:27 PM
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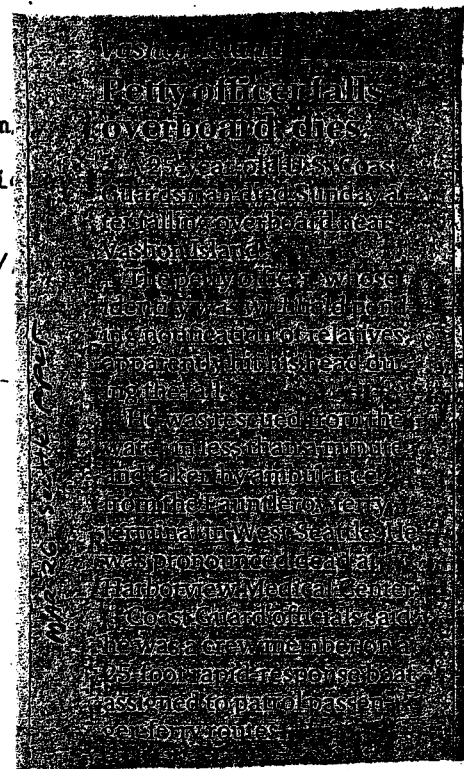
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